

00862.023378

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | |
| TAKASHI TSUBOI ET AL. | : | Examiner: Not Yet Assigned |
| |) | |
| Application No.: N.Y.A. | : | Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned |
| |) | |
| Filed: Herewith | : | |
| |) | |
| For: PROCESSING APPARATUS | : | December 16, 2003 |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Since the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003, no copies of such documents are enclosed. Copies of the other listed documents, however, are enclosed.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents may be found, inter alia, in the specification where cited and/or in the English language abstracts attached thereto. Also, the concise explanation of relevance for JP 2000-336499; JP 11-195640; JP 5-21338; JP 7-302889; JP 10-275798; JP 2000-277478; and JP 6-216110 may be found, respectively, in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,417,069 B1; 6,258,240 B1; 5,371,037;

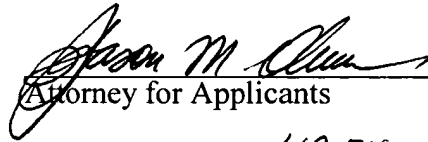
6,246,068 B1; 5,951,833; 6,547,938 B1; and 5,458,755, which are in the same patent family.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
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|---|----|--------------------|----------|---|-------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.023378 | | APPLICATION NO. N.Y.A. | |
| | | | | APPLICANT Takashi Tsuboi et al. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE Filed Herewith | | GROUP N.Y.A. | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 6,417,069 B1 | 07/09/02 | Sakaguchi et al. | 438 | 408 | |
| | | 6,258,240 B1 | 07/10/01 | Matsumura et al. | 205 | 124 | |
| | | 5,371,037 | 12/06/94 | Yonehara | 437 | 86 | |
| | | 6,246,068 B1 | 06/12/01 | Sato et al. | 257 | 3 | |
| | | 5,951,833 | 09/14/99 | Yamagata | 204 | 198 | |
| | | 6,547,938 B1 | 04/15/03 | Matsumura et al. | 204 | 225 | |
| | | 5,458,755 | 10/17/95 | Fujiyama et al. | 204 | 224 R | |
| | | | | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
| | JP | 2000-336499 | 12/05/00 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 11-195640 | 07/21/99 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 5-21338 | 01/29/93 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 7-302889 | 11/14/95 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 10-275798 | 10/13/98 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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| | | | | APPLICANT Takashi Tsuboi et al. | | | |
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| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
| | JP | 11-195639 | 07/21/99 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 2000-277484 | 10/06/00 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 2000-273699 | 10/03/00 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 2000-277478 | 10/06/00 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 6-216110 | 08/05/94 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 11-214353 | 08/06/99 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
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